

Borough of Rawtenstall



ANNUAL REPORT

for 1948 of the
Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Sanitary Inspector

Borough of Rawtenstall

ANNUAL REPORT

for 1948


OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

EXPRESS PRINTING (ROSSENDALE) LTD.
ORMEROD STREET, RAWTENSTALL,



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30030833>

BOROUGH OF RAWTENSTALL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR A. PEEL)

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR H. TURNER

ALDERMAN J. BLACKBURN

„ J. HALLIWELL

COUNCILLOR G. ALDERSON

„ J. A. BURNETT

„ E. GIBSON

„ S. HILL

„ J. HINDLE

„ F. H. HOWARTH

„ A. INGHAM

„ E. INGHAM

„ J. STANSFIELD

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

T. PATTON SEWELL, M.D., D.P.H. (to 4/7/48)

C. H. T. WADE, M.D., D.P.H. (from 5/7/48)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

C. CUNLIFFE, A.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector :

L. T. SIMPSON, A.R.S.I.

Clerks :

A. HALLIWELL, MISS J. CLEGG

ANNUAL REPORT — 1948.

TO THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE
RAWTENSTALL BOROUGH COUNCIL.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1948, on the health and sanitary conditions of the district.

The National Health Service Act came into force on July 5th 1948, and from that date the personal health services became the responsibility of the County Council whilst the environmental health services including the control of infectious disease remained with the Borough Council. A divisional scheme of administration was set up in order to maintain local influence, and as your Medical Officer is also the Divisional Medical Officer co-ordination of County and Borough health services is assured.

In taking over the services and staff it became apparent that a high standard has been achieved in the past, and tribute must be paid to the Members of the Council and Officers who have carried out their duties and responsibilities with such conspicuous success.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. H. T. WADE,

Medical Officer of Health.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

I have pleasure in submitting with the Medical Officer of Health, my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the Borough as contained in Sections C, D and E.

The continued use of dwellings which are unfit for human habitation is a problem which the Department finds increasingly more difficult to deal with each year, whilst systematic reconditioning of property which pre-war was suitable and ripe for general overhaul and improvement, is seriously hampered by the difficulty of present day rentals meeting high repair costs. Patching up is the order of the day, and too often we have to be satisfied with just keeping houses weatherproof. Some improvement however has been witnessed in securing the carrying out of essential housing repairs and abatement of other nuisances as evidenced by 189 more defects being remedied than were discovered during the year, thus wiping off some arrears. The closing of nine unfit houses following vacation by tenants was also effected and prevented a succession of tenants pleading for Corporation houses on the grounds of bad housing.

The provision of dustbins to 164 houses previously served by 34 ashpits saw the end of this obsolete type of refuse storage accommodation in the urban parts of the Borough. Remaining ashpits are situated in isolated areas not accessible to the regular refuse collection service.

Considerable work was done on a survey of the large number of private water supplies and when all details are available it is hoped to submit a comprehensive report to the Committee.

The coming into operation of a five day week necessitated some reorganisation of the refuse collection service which is also constantly expanding as more houses are built. The delivery of an additional vehicle at the end of the year would normally have

enabled the Department to cope with the changes but a high incidence of sickness amongst the employees during the winter months made it at times impossible to staff the normal four vehicles.

Salvage receipts again showed an increase over the previous year but the prospect of maintaining at present levels this relief to the rates does not appear too promising, and a consequent increase in Cleansing Costs is foreshadowed.

In conclusion, I must record the excellent co-operation and assistance I have received from the staff and colleague officials.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. CUNLIFFE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION A.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The National Health Service Act transferred the Maternity and Child Welfare, Ambulance, and Diphtheria Immunisation services to the County Council but the two last named services continued to be operated by the Borough Council at the request of the County Council for the remainder of the year.

Other changes of particular importance were the treatment of all cases of infectious diseases free of charge and their admission to the most suitable infectious disease hospital without regard to local boundaries, and the free bacteriological examination of milk and water samples and pathological specimens by the new Public Health Laboratory Service .

During the year there was an excess of live births over deaths of 49 although the death rate of 14.2 per 1,000 population was higher than that for England and Wales (10.8). The high infantile mortality rate of 58 per 1,000 live births is mainly due to congenital defects and to premature births. These factors account for two-thirds of the deaths, and action in respect of them is a matter for the County Council through the Divisional Health Committee.

Infectious disease was generally mild in character but there were three deaths from whooping cough, of which two were under one year of age. Tuberculosis claimed fifteen persons of which number twelve were of working age. Milk samples were found to contain tubercle bacilli on two occasions and four out of twenty-four samples of undesignated milk were bacteriologically unsatisfactory. The results of testing water supplies were not so happy, and of thirty samples ten were unsatisfactory bacteriologically. These were private supplies and all samples from the Irwell Valley Water Board were up to standard.

Ninety-one traditional permanent houses were completed during the year but the presence of two thousand back to back houses and fifty back to earth houses means that there is a tremendous leeway to make up.

So many houses of this type and a similar number with private water supplies may discourage residents and have an appreciable influence on the population trend. There is a priority waiting list of 526 applicants for Corporation houses. The completion of over one hundred houses was in hand at the end of the year.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1948.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	9528
Number of Inhabited Houses—according to the Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	8893
Number of Inhabited Houses—Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	8079
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£150,056
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£577
Population—Registrar General's Estimate (Mid-year, 1948)	...	...	...	...	...	25,140
Population—Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	28,575

BIRTHS.		Male.	Female.	Total
Live Births	Legitimate	206	183	389
	Illegitimate	10	9	19
	Total	216	192	408
Still Births	Legitimate	7	4	11
	Illegitimate	—	—	—
	Total	7	4	11
DEATHS.				
Infantile	Legitimate	13	8	21
	Illegitimate	2	1	3
	Total	15	9	24
Maternal	Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
	Other Maternal Causes	—	1	1
	Total	—	1	1

	Male.	Female.	Total
Heart Disease	58	64	122
Cancer	29	20	49
Tuberculosis	10	4	14
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	0
Diphtheria (all ages):			
Immunised	0	0	0
Not Immunised	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	2	1	3
All causes	181	178	359

Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 population	16.20
Still Birth Rate, per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	26.00
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births	58.00
Maternal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 total (live and still) births	2.38
Cancer Death Rate	1.94
Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.43
Crude Death Rate (all causes)	14.20



Live Birth Rate, England and Wales	17.90
Infantile Mortality Rate, England and Wales	34.00
Death Rate, England and Wales	10.80

CAUSES OF DEATH							Males	Females
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	181	178
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	3
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
8. Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
15. Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	11
17. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	33
19. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	64
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
21. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	8
22. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
23. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
27. Other digestive disorders	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
28. Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
31. Premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	5
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
33. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
34. Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
35. Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	5
36. All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	15

RAWTENSTALL BOROUGH - VITAL STATISTICS

Year	Population	Death Rate per 1,000	Birth Rate per 1,000 population			Infant Mort. per 1,000 live births	Actual Still Births	Maternal Death Rate	
			Actual		All Births			per 1,000 live	per 1,000 live & still
			Leg.	Illeg.					
1948	25,140	14.2	389	19	16.2	58	11	2.45	2.38
1947	24,630	15.3	486	9	20.0	48	13	4.04	3.93
1946	24,300	14.2	365	23	15.9	35	15	7.73	7.35
1945	23,000	17.3	305	21	14.1	55.0	10	6.13	5.95
1944	23,630	15.5	386	16	17.3	57.21	9	4.97	4.86
1943	23,630	15.6	323	15	14.3	17.75	8	2.96	2.89
1942	26,030	12.6	307	10	12.9	34.7	18	nil	nil
1941	25,770	14.8	294	8	11.7	47.02	17	9.4	8.92
1940	26,030	14.8	274	5	10.7	46.9	12	nil	nil
1939	26,810(Birth)								
	26,910(Death)	14.1	269	11	10.4	60	7	3.57	3.48
1938	27,070	14.0	311	10	11.8	62	12	6.23	6.00
1937	27,300	15.1	257	9	9.7	71	11	7.51	7.22
1936	27,710	14.4	323	12	12.0	59	20	nil	nil
1935	27,940	13.3	263	12	9.8	50	22	nil	nil
1934	28,020	12.4	340	17	12.7	78	12	2.80	2.71
1933	28,130	13.8	270	13	10.0	56	19	3.53	3.31
1932	28,500	13.2	307	9	11.0	63	21	3 deaths	
1931	28,890	13.4	352	15	12.7	49	22	5.44	5.14
1930	28,660	13.2	330	13	11.9	84	22	20.40	
1929	28,660	15.9	385	12	13.8	95	18	5.03	
1928	28,990	13.3	354	13	12.6	70	31	2.72	
1927	28,920	13.0	401	10	14.2	58	10	3 deaths	
1926	28,890	13.5	407	15	14.6	83	8	2	„
1925	28,960	13.0	420	13	14.9	87	7	2	„
1924	29,200	14.5	465	15	16.4	104	15	2	„
1923	29,020	13.5	490	16	17.4	75	16	1	„
1922	28,990	15.0	471	20	16.9	89	10	4	„
1921	28,470	12.5	573	22	20.5	68	17	3	„
1920	28,470	13.3	559	34	20.8	89.1	9	4	„
1919	27,379	12.8	334	25	12.5	55	7	2	„
1918	25,232	17.2	343	19	12.8	102		4	„
1917	29,018(Birth)								
	26,032(Death)	12.37	326	18	11.65	73.31	18	3	„
1916	30,821(Birth)								
	28,328(Death)	13.23	485	25	16.54	94.1	24	1	„
1915	29,575	16.26	528	20	18.53	133.21		0	„
1914	30,600	15.95	538	24	18.36	88.913		3	„
1913	30,500	14.91	275	18	19.44	101.18			
1912	30,500	14.42	553	19	18.75	96.15		2	„
1911	30,500	15.14	599	25	20.45	129.80		3	„
1910	32,960	12.22	599	26	18.96	110.4		6	„
1909	32,800	13.96	646	30	20.60	102.07		2	„
1908	32,700	13.97	705	28	22.41	113.23		2	„
1907	32,600	15.46	687	33	22.08	136.11		3	„
1906	32,200	14.4	642	24	20.68	123.12		4	„
1905	32,000	14.21	663	36	21.84	118.8		5	„
1904	31,350	15.72	675	35	22.64	143.6		2	„
1903	31,250	15.23	687		21.95	126.6		3	„
1902	31,170	14.14	703		22.55	137.9		1	„
1901	31,090	16.66	731		23.5	146.37		2	„
1900	30,934	16.7	752		24.3	153		2	„
1899	30,770	15.9	769		24.9	143			
1898	30,620	16.7	811		26.4	156.6			
1897	30,460	18.8	812		26.6	182.2			
1896	30,310	18.04	800		26.3	173.7			
1895	30,000	18.3	876		29.2	154			
1894	30,064	14.6	778		25.9	119			
1893		18.5							
1892		19.6							

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services
for the Area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Laboratory Service has a laboratory at Monsall Hospital, Manchester, which was opened towards the end of the year. The following examinations were made during the year :—

Diphtheria	8
Enteric Fever	1
Milk (Bact.)	24
Water	33
Ambulance Service	} These services are now provided by the County Council.
Home Nursing	
Midwives	
Maternity and Child Welfare Service	

HOSPITALS.

Patients are now admitted without regard to local boundaries to the most suitable hospital or the one with accommodation available. There are no new hospitals, and there are no additional beds.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances.

WATER SUPPLIES.

No. of houses supplied by Irwell Valley Water Board ...	6558
No. of houses supplied by Bacup Corporation	57
No. of houses supplied by private water supplies	2143

We are indebted to the Engineer and Manager (R. Wyllie, Esq., M.Inst. C.E.) for the following tabulated report on the water supply furnished by the Irwell Valley Water Board.

PARTICULARS REQUIRED.

REMARKS.

Has the water supply of the area and of its several parts been satisfactory during the year?

(a) In quantity

Yes.

(b) In quality

Yes.

If piped supply, examinations made during the year.

No bacteriological examinations of the raw water have been made. 90 bacteriological and 21 chemical analyses of the treated water going into supply were made and in all cases found to be satisfactory.

Where the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and results of analysis.

90 examinations for plumbosolvency were made and these were found to be mainly satisfactory. Lime treatment of the water is applied at the reservoirs.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination.

All water is chlorinated at the source.

Nature of extension of water supplies (if any during the year).

839 yards of 3in., 1771 yards of 4in. and 32 yards of 6in. distribution mains were laid. In addition 13 yards of 3in. and 501 yards of 4in. distribution mains were renewed.

In addition to the above this Department submitted two

samples of town's water for bacteriological examination, both of which proved to be satisfactory.

Several of the private water supplies are unsatisfactory, in which connection 30 samples of water were collected for bacteriological examination of which 20 proved satisfactory and 10 unsatisfactory. Chemical examination of one sample proved satisfactory. As a result of action by this Department 34 houses served by unsatisfactory private water supplies were connected to the Board's supply whilst private water supply improvements in hand or completed numbered eleven affecting 433 houses.

A considerable amount of work was carried out in connection with a survey of the private water supplies with a view to the submission of a comprehensive report.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The area is drained by the Bacup, Rawtenstall, and Haslingden Outfall Sewerage Board. The works are situated in Haslingden.

There are a number of farms and cottages not connected to the sewers by reason of their isolation.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Irwell and its two tributaries, Limy Water and Whitewell Brook, are polluted by industrial premises. Serious complaints are referred to the Irwell and Mersey Catchment Board.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

No. of privy middens	21
No. of closets attached to these middens	21
No. of pail closets	477
No. of dry ashpits (exclusive of middens)	24
No. of waste water closets	3577
No. of fresh water closets	3908
No. of portable receptacles for refuse	8437

SANITARY CONVERSIONS.

No. of Pail Closets to fresh W.C's	2
No. of Waste W.C's to Fresh W.C's	38
No. of houses at which movable receptacles have been substituted for fixed receptacles	164

Sanitary Inspections during 1948.

NATURE OF VISIT.	No. of Primary Visits.	No. of Re-visits.	Total No. of Visits.
Dwelling House Repairs — Public Health Act	136	251	387
Dwelling House Repairs — Housing Act	8	15	23
Drainage and Sewerage	217	132	349
Refuse Accommodation	503	139	642
Sanitary Accommodation	63	19	82
Verminous Premises	—	1	1
Overcrowding	9	1	10
Private Water Supplies	51	43	94
Dairy Farms	103	46	149
Stock Farms	11	4	15
Milk Sampling (bacteriological)	55	—	55
Milk Sampling (chemical)	59	—	59
Food Inspections	171	1	172
Slaughterhouses	24	—	24
Food Preparing Premises	19	5	24
Ice Cream Premises	13	5	18
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	11	4	15
Smoke Abatement	8	1	9
Rodent Control	27	12	39
Infectious Diseases	20	2	22
Disinfections	70	7	77
Public Conveniences	235	—	235
Cleansing and Salvage	241	—	241
Water Samples	51	—	51
Food Poisoning	2	4	6
Food Hawkers' Premises	1	—	1
Keeping of Animals	3	—	3
Miscellaneous	58	8	66
	<hr/> 2169	<hr/> 700	<hr/> 2869

WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE YEAR.

The following list of housing defects and nuisances were discovered, remedied, and dealt with by informal notices :—

Nature of Defect.	Number Discovered	Number Remedied.
Roofs	35	58
Chimney Stacks	5	12
Eaves Gutters	23	36
Rainwater Pipes	6	15
Wall Pointings, etc.	27	71
Outbuildings	11	19
Yard Surfacing	1	3
W.C. Fittings	12	11
Soil Pipes	2	6
Waste Pipes	4	7
Closet Pails	2	2
Drains	66	58
W.C. Flushing Apparatus	87	73
Ashpits/Abolition	32	34
Dustbins	166	151
Offensive Accumulations	2	2
Boundary Walls	3	—
Sanitary Accommodation	1	—
Refuse Access Opening	1	—
Plasterwork	26	56
Windows	23	51
Doors	4	10
Floors	9	17
Fireranges	7	23
Chimney Flues	3	6
Sinks	—	2
Water Supply Pipes	1	9
Cleansing of Rooms	—	1
Art. Light Fittings	2	2
Water Insufficiency	—	13
Water Storage Tanks	—	2
	<hr/> 561	<hr/> 750

In addition to the above, 328 complaints relating to blocked drains, etc., were dealt with. During the year 659 dustbins were issued by this Department.

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	276
Statutory	5

DISINFESTATION.

Treatment by the Department's staff has been undertaken at one house infested with bed bugs, four houses infested with cock-roaches, and one house infested with crickets. The disinfestants used were proprietary spray liquids and powders incorporating D.D.T. Advice and assistance is given to all occupiers who seek our help.

DISINFECTION.

	For Tuberculosis.			Other than T.B.		
	Beds.	Rooms.	Other Articles.	Beds.	Rooms.	Other Articles.
Disinfected	20	20	283	26	15	230
Destroyed	—	—	6	24	—	216

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two tripe dressing premises in the Borough which receive periodic inspection.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	129	15
Factories not included above to which Section 7 applies	184	—
Totals	313	15

DEFECTS FOUND.

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. by H.M.	
			Inspector	Inspector.
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	9	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	2	2	—	—
	8	12	—	2

OUTWORKERS.

No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110-132.

RODENT CONTROL.

One man is employed on rodent control work and the technique advised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is carried out in all infestations.

No. of premises visited	121
No. of premises treated	98
No. of visits made	499
No. of pre-baits laid	854
No. of poison baits laid	347

In addition to the above attack on premises two treatments were given to the sewers with the following results :—

	1st Treatment	2nd Treatment
Total No. of manholes	1745	1745
No. of manholes baited	1676	510
No. of manholes showing pre-bait take	134	13
No. of manholes showing com- plete pre-bait take	5	nil

It will be seen therefore that sewer infestations were at a low level during the year.

Public Cleansing.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The collection of domestic and trade refuse was in the main carried out by four S.D. Freighters. A fifth reserve vehicle enabled a complete overhaul to be made of each of the older vehicles without interference with refuse collection frequency. Owing to the high incidence of sickness occurring amongst employees during the winter months it was seldom possible to staff five vehicles as had been hoped, whilst the operation of a five day week necessitated some re-organisation.

Despite a “mild” winter and the absence of severe frosts and snow, which tend to delay refuse collection services, a remarkable increase in the weight of refuse collected was noted. This was probably due to the greater release of unrationed coal which is productive of a high ash content.

A Bedford vehicle was engaged in the collection of waste paper and kitchen waste, and the mechanical gully emptier was hired from the Highways Department on two days per week for the emptying of pail contents from closets at outlying cottages and farms.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Disposal of refuse is dealt with at the Meadow Heap Tip. Owing to the impossibility of completing the proposed culverting scheme necessary for future tip development some difficulty was experienced in securing sufficient tipping area and refuse was tipped at greater depth than usually recommended.

	No. of loads tipped
Refuse	4249
Sweepings	72
Gully material	98
Various	2033

CLEANSING COSTS.

The nett cost of refuse collection and disposal (excluding excreta removal) for the financial year ending 31st March, 1949, was £8,550.

Nett Cost per Ton (estimated weight)	£1/2/0 ¹ / ₂ d.
Nett Cost per 1,000 Premises	£896/2/7 ³ / ₄ d.
Nett cost per 1,000 Population (25,140) ...	£340/1/10 ³ / ₄ d.

SALVAGE.

The weight and value of salvage collected during the year are as follows :—

	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	137	12	2	1053	3	8
Kitchen Waste (Raw)	167	8	3	410	4	0
Textiles	2	12	0	21	15	5
Bones	1	3	1	6	14	0
Ferrous Metals	1	8	0	3	13	1
Non-ferrous Metals		10	2	25	19	0
Totals	310	15	0	1521	9	2
Concentrated Kitchen Waste (Gross Profit)	119	5	0	143	10	1
Total Income				1664	19	3

SECTION D.

Housing.

NEW HOUSES.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—

	Pre-fabs.		Traditional
	Temp.	Perm.	Perm'n'ts.
(i) By the local authority	—	—	90
(ii) By other local authorities	—	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons ..	—	—	1

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	826
Number of inspections made for the above purpose	1577
Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regs. 1925 and 1932	6
No. of inspections made for the above purpose	23
No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
No. of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	820

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority and its officers	899
--	-----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING YEAR.

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made (5 formal, 4 voluntary)	9
--	---

HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1948	2
No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during 1948...	4
No. of persons concerned in such cases	15

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

Number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply 178

Number of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation :—

In the main, the 2,000 back to back houses share at sanitary accommodation.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

A. MILK SUPPLY (Registration and Buildings).

Number of dairy farms	114
Number of cowkeepers	116
Number of Dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers)	10
Number of accredited producers (Licensed by Lancashire C.C.)	4
Number of inspections made to dairy farms	149

During the year 28 farms were found not to be in all respects suitable for milk production. At the end of the year the work was outstanding at 13 of the farms, and in progress at 14 farms. One farm had been rendered fit.

A total of 99 defects were found. Of these, 75 were outstanding and 16 in progress at the end of the year. 8 defects were remedied.

24 informal notices were served in connection with these defects.

The following summary gives brief details of the defects found and remedied during the year.

	Found	Remedied
Cowsheds.		
Requiring reconstruction	17	1
Floors unsatisfactory	9	—
Walls unsatisfactory	7	1
Approach unsatisfactory	1	—
Lighting unsatisfactory	6	—
Ventilation unsatisfactory	5	—
Dairies.		
Absence of	21	3
Walls unsatisfactory	1	—
Ventilation unsatisfactory	1	—

Water Supplies.		
Insufficient	5	1
Unsatisfactory	3	—
Manure Receptacles.		
Unsatisfactory	11	1
Drainage.		
Unsatisfactory	7	—
Piggeries.		
Unsatisfactory	1	—
Unsatisfactory position of	3	1
Yards.		
Surface unsatisfactory	1	—
	<hr/> 99	<hr/> 8

B. MILK SUPPLY SAMPLING.

The following table shows the results of samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination. The samples of "Accredited" milk were taken on behalf of the Lancashire County Council:—

	Number Submitted.	Number Satisfactory.	Number Unsatisfactory.
Accredited	22	18	4
Pasteurised	3	3	—
Undesignated	24	18	4

Forty-six of the above samples were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. Two samples proved positive and the County Medical Officer of Health was notified. The Divisional Veterinary Officer traced the offending animals which were subsequently slaughtered.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Inspection of food is carried out regularly at retailers' premises. Meat supplied for retail in the Borough is inspected at the Burnley Public Abattoirs.

Owners of "cottagers" pigs notify slaughter, and the majority of the pigs are inspected. In cases of disease being found, owners voluntarily surrender affected meat and offals.

The following articles of food were inspected and condemned:—

Biscuits	720	lbs.
Butter	80	lbs.
Cake	36	lbs.
Cereals	64½	lbs.
Cheese	40	lbs.
Coffee Extract	252	lbs.
Egg, liquid	80	lbs.
Eggs, shell	42	doz.
Fish, dried	28	lbs.
Fish, tinned	49	tins
Fish, wet	34	stones
Fruit, dried	75	lbs.
Fruit, raw	1	bushel
Fruit, tinned	69	tins
Ham	65½	lbs.
Meat, raw	10	lbs.
Meat, tinned	44	tins
Milk, tinned	140	tins
Nuts	11	lbs.
Pickles	67	jars
Preserves	32	tins or jars
Shellfish, tinned	25	tins
Soup	12	tins
Vegetables, dried	112	lbs.
Vegetables, tinned	129	tins
Yeast	7	lbs.

FOOD PREMISES.

Preparatory work for a systematic survey of all food premises was commenced during the year. A circular letter embodying salient features of food handling hygiene was sent to the occupiers of 350 food handling premises. Promises of co-operation and general interest displayed was felt to augur well for an all round improvement of standards.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION.

The Lancashire County Council undertake the sampling of food for quality, assistance being rendered by this Department as required. Dr. F. Hall, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly furnished the following information:—

A total of 120 samples was obtained; 60 of these were of milk and the 60 others comprised:—

4 butter	3 cheese
4 margarine	4 castor oil
4 baking powder	1 bread
6 syrup of figs	1 tea cakes
2 sweets	8 sauce
2 bacon	1 barley
5 cooking fat	1 flour (self-raising)
2 custard powder	2 sugar
2 borax	1 meat pies
4 ice cream	1 British sherry
2 tea	

In addition, 5 "appeal-to-cow" samples of milk were obtained.

All the above samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

Sample.	Result.	Action.
1 syrup of figs	Sample fermenting strongly, Infested with wild yeast.	Stock surrendered.
1 sweets	Contained 145 parts per million excess sulphite preservative.	Manufacturer notified.
1 formal milk	Deficient 4% solids-not-fat; freezing point indicated the presence of 3.5% extraneous water.	Prosecution. Vendor fined £15 and £4/4 0 costs.
1 formal milk	Deficient 6.3% solids-not-fat; freezing point indicated the presence of 4.5% extraneous water.	
1 formal milk	Deficient 11% solids-not-fat; freezing point indicated the presence of 12.4% extraneous water.	Prosecution. Vendor fined £5 and £5/5/0 costs.
1 formal milk	Deficient 5.5% solids-not-fat; freezing point indicated the presence of 3.1% extraneous water.	Prosecution. Vendor fined £20 and £8/8'0 costs.
1 formal milk	Deficient 11.6% of fat and 8.8% solids-not-fat; freezing point indicated the presence of 6.7% extraneous water.	

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

TABLE SHOWING NO. OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING EACH YEAR
FROM 1939—1948.

DISEASE.	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	18	40	25	66	60	61	42	20	28	7
Diphtheria	14	54	12	13	25	27	42	30	...	...
Enteric Fever .....	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	38	63	55	42	50	44	41	41	48	32
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia										
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	4	2	...	3	2	2	6	2	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	...	1	2	6	4	1	2	2	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	1
Acute Polio-encephalitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery .....	...	...	...	1	...	3	6	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	1	6	8	3	7	1	4	8	2
Erysipelas	15	17	15	26	5	7	8	6	5	11
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	20	15	22	13	15	24	21	22	15	21
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	23	16	11	8	13	9	11	8	7	8
Relapsing Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	1	352	81	357	49	91	146	95	97	305
Whooping Cough	2	60	146	26	51	53	15	36	38	105
Malaria—Contracted Abroad...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
TOTALS	141	627	378	568	278	329	338	271	251	493

Reference has been made in the general summary to the free treatment of infectious disease at any suitable hospital and to the free bacteriological examination of pathological specimens at the new Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester. The National Health Service Act requires copies of all notifications of infectious disease to be forwarded without delay to the County Medical Officer. In practice these notifications are sent to the Divisional Medical Officer so that he may correlate action within the health division, and to enable Divisional Health

Committees to gain a regular knowledge of the incidence of infectious disease throughout their area.

Diphtheria antitoxin is now supplied by the Regional Hospital Service and the centre for this district is the Rossendale General Hospital.

Notifiable infectious disease was generally mild in character throughout the year except for three deaths from whooping cough. Two of these children were under one year of age and one was three years old. An expectant mother developed poliomyelitis and was admitted to hospital. This was the only known case during the year, and the source of infection was ^{not} found. She recovered completely and the baby was not affected. One case of malaria was notified, the infection having been contracted abroad. For the second year in succession there were no cases of diphtheria.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

This service became the responsibility of the County Council on July 5th, 1948 but the transfer of the service was not effected during the year. The figures for 1948 are included in this report and co-operation between the District Council and the County Council will be necessary for propaganda purposes.

DIPHTHERIA CASES AND DEATHS. 1937—1948.

	No. of cases.	No. of deaths.
1937	30	3
1938	19	—
1939	14	—
1940	54	4
1941	12	—
1942	13	—
1943	25	—
1944	27	—
1945	42	1
1946	30	—
1947	nil	—
1948	nil	—

Persons Immunised each year from 1934—1948.

.....	58.00%
.....	90.80%
.....	77.56%

0-4	years	inclusive
5-14	years	inclusive
0-14	years	inclusive

% age of children immunised:—

Children immunised privately not included.

TUBERCULOSIS.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Fem's	Males	Fem's	Males	Fem's	Males	Fem's
0-1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5-10	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...
10-15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-20	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
20-25	2	2	1	1	1	...	...	...
25-35	...	4	...	...	1	1	...	...
35-45	1	2	1	1	...	2	...	...
45-55	3	2	...	...	4	...	...	...
55-65	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
Over 65	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1
	9	12	4	4	9	3	2	1
	21		8		12		3	

PARTICULARS OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE
REGISTER DURING 1948.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
No. of cases on register at beginning of year	40	36	76	15	30	45	55	66	121
No. of cases added to register during year ..	9	12	21	4	3	7	13	15	28
No. of cases removed from register during year:—									
(a) Died	9	3	12	2	1	3	11	4	15
(b) Left the district ...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	2	2
(c) Recovered .....	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	2	2
(d) Diagnosis not confirmed .....	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
No. of cases remaining on register at end of year:—	40	44	84	17	28	45	57	72	129

